Mr. S. Venkatesiah.—

Have the accounts of the sub-agents ever been audited ?

First Member of Council.—

I don't think it is advisable to go into details now. The connected case is now sub-judice.

Mr. Puttuswamy.—

Do the sub-agents send their accounts direct?

First Member of Council.—

No. The agents send them.

MESSRS. K. T. SATYANARAYANA SEITY, N. M. SIVALINGAPPAIYA and K. THIMMEGOWDA (Kadur Taluk), G. KARIYANNA (Minority Interest), HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO and M. S. DYAVEGOWDA (Koppa Taluk).

Q.—37. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether it has been brought to their notice that the cost of petrol in Mysore has been increased by two annas per gallon as a result of the increase of the same in British India ?

(*b*) Whether they are aware that the money collected in the shape of extra cost on petrol will be utilised for the maintenance of roads in British India ?

(*c*) Whether the British Government have agreed to pay to the Mysore Durbar what is collected in our State ?

(*d*) Whether the Government have estimated how much this extra cost on petrol collected in the Mysore State amounts to ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT.—

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is engaging attention. The Government have constituted a Committee to go into the several questions arising out of the levy of this surcharge on petrol by the Government of India and their proposals are awaited.

(*d*) About a lakh and a half rupees.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

In regard to the reply given by Government to question (*c*) will the Government be pleased to state the names of the gentlemen who compose the Committee?

Development Secretary.—

Orders are under issue.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

Are there any non-official members on the Committee?

Development Secretary.—

Yes; Messrs. N. S. Nanjundiah and B. Abdur Rahmon.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

What benefit is going to be derived by the raiyats from this petrol tax?

First Member of Council.—

The proceeds of the tax will be utilised for the maintenance of roads.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

Is it the object of Government to abolish toll-gates ultimately?

First Member of Council.—

As far as possible.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

Is it Provincial toll-gates or does it apply to all?

Chief Secretary.—

The Committee will examine all these matters.

Mr. Satyanarayana Chetty.—

Is it with the object of abolishing toll-gates that a sum of two annas per gallon is levied in British India?

Revenue Commissioner.—

It is not with the object of abolishing the toll-gates but to improve the roads.

Mr. Nagappa Chetty.—

Toll-gates are introduced with a view to improve roads out of the money collected. Can the Government hold out a promise to abolish all toll-gates when the petrol tax is introduced?

Dewan.—

Frontier toll-gates and bridge toll-gates are necesssary.

Mr. Sanjiviah.—

Does the Government know that the non-officials on the Toll-Gate Committee are interested parties in virtue of their office?

Dewan.—

The policy of Government is to reduce the number of toll-gates as far as possible.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

Has not the British Road Committee recommended the abolition of toll-gates and has it not been accepted by the Government of India?

Revenue Commissioner.—

No. They have said that a road fund should be created. On the question of the abolition of toll-gates, the Government of India have passed no orders.

DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET—(*Contd*).

MR. S. C. MALLIAH said that though there had been improvements in the State in every respect, yet Government had not bestowed adequate attention on the question of the wide diffusion of education. In all administrations, University education was only optional and not obligatory, whereas in Mysore it was quite the reverse. He made this statement because the University grant had increased by 50 per cent during the last 10 years, which was not the case with regard to primary education, in spite of the levy of education cess. In Travancore and Cochin, 60 per cent of the State revenues was being set apart for education and no education cess was levied; whereas in Mysore not even 30 per cent of the State Revenue was being spent on education even with the education cess.